Appl. No.

: 10/600,689

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## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph Nos. 0001, 0008 and 0011 of the specification as indicated below:

[0001] This application is a continuing application under 35 U.S.C. § 365(c) claiming the benefit of the filing date of PCT Application No. PCT/KR01/02243 designating the United States, filed December 22, 2001. The PCT Application was published in English as WO 02/052021 A1 on July 4, 2002, and claims the benefit of the earlier filing date of Korean Patent Application Nos. 2000/80608, filed December 22, 2000, and 2000/2001/80711, filed December 18, 2001. The contents of Korean Patent Application Nos. 2000/80608 and 2000/2001/80711, and the international application No. PCT/KR01/02243 and the publication 02/052021 A1 are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.

[0008] An aspect of the present invention provides an isolated polynucleotide coding for an arabinose isomerase from *Thermatoga Thermotoga* neapolitana. The isolated polynucleotide has the sequence of SEQ. ID NO: 3.

[0011] Another aspect of the present invention provides an isolated polypeptide of arabinose isomerase isolated from *Thermatoga Thermotoga neapolitana*.